

Father Says Powers May Quit the CIA

By STAN KOVEN

U-2 pilot Frances Gary Powers is considering a return to his former civilian pilot's job, his father said today.

Reached by phone at his Pound, Va., home, Oliver Powers told The Post:

"The next couple of weeks will see some change (in the pilot's status). It's entirely possible he'll find something else to do. The big aircraft company he worked for wants him back. He's had many offers."

Powers worked for Lockheed Aviation Corp. as a \$1,500-a-month test pilot before embarking on the career which rocketed him to world-wide attention.

Prior to his Lockheed employment, Powers was a first lieutenant in the Air Force.

Health Impaired

The pilot, 32, who spent 17 months in a Soviet prison and has recently been subjected to intensive examination by his Central Intelligence Agency su-

periors, is in "generally run-down condition," his father said.

While declining to elaborate, Oliver Powers said: "His health is not too good."

Health would not be a grounds for his contemplated resignation from the CIA, however.

The elder Powers commented happily on reports that his son has been cleared by his CIA interrogators of any wrongdoing in connection with his capture and failure to destroy his top-secret plane.

Freed in Spy Swap

"Everything's in good shape," the father said. "Everything's going to work out for the best."

The pilot fell into Soviet hands May 1, 1960, while flying a high-altitude reconnaissance mission over Russian soil. Three months later he was sentenced to Vladimir Prison. He was released last month in a

swap for the American-held Soviet spy, Rudolph Abel.

The father's disclosures came on the heels of reports that Powers had been cleared by a special Presidential board headed by Federal Judge E. Barrett Prettyman. The pilot has been under wraps since his return.

The pilot is expected to be depicted today in testimony by CIA Director McCone before a Senate watchdog committee as a man who met unexplained disaster and coped with it reasonably well. Powers reportedly has been unable to shed much light on how his plane was brought down, however.

Sen. Russell (D-Ga.), chairman of the watchdog group, has stated it was uncertain whether Powers would be called to testify.

Plans for Powers press conference also were indefinite at this stage.